

USDA, NASS, Texas Field Office

P.O. Box 70

Austin, Texas 78767-0070

(512) 916-5581

On: APRIL EGG PRODUCTION

UP 13 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

For Information Contact: Tynesha Boomer Charles Drain

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Austin . . . April egg production in Texas totaled 418 million eggs, up 13 percent from April 2005, but down 4 percent from March 2006, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.

The number of layers during April averaged 19 million, up 9 percent from last year but down 1 percent from March 2006. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,206 eggs, up 4 percent from last year but down 3 percent from last month.

Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks in April totaled 53.7 million, down 3 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 7.54 billion eggs during April 2006, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.48 billion table eggs, 998 million broiler-type hatching eggs and 68 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 348 million during April 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,164 eggs, up slightly from April 2005.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 34.6 million, down 9 percent from April 2005. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 787 million, was down 1 percent from April of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 6.59 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2006, down 3 percent from April 2005.